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THE

FREE LANDS

OF

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DAKOTA

With a Description of the Country; the Climate; The
Beautiful Valleys, and Ocean-Like Prairies;
The Crops; The Land Laws, and the
Inducements offered to
Immigrants.

BY FRED. J. CROSS,

Territorial Superintendent of Immigration.

MLCS 82/5825

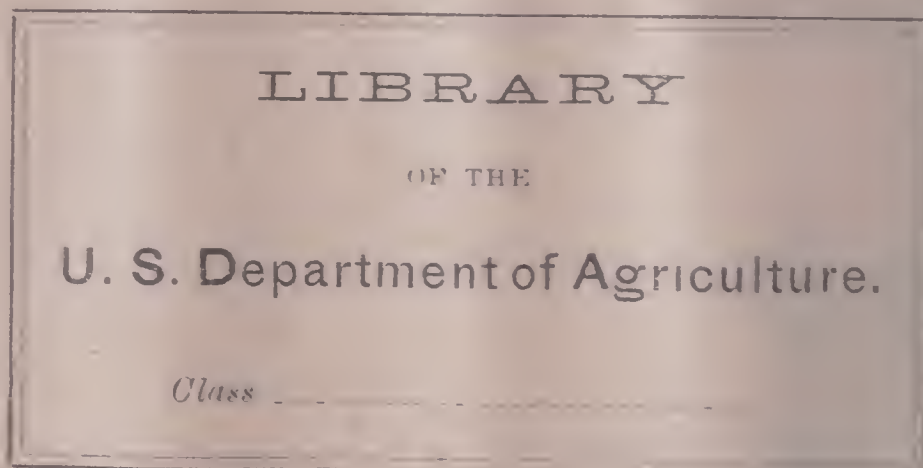
the Board of Immigration.

YANKTON, DAKOTA:

BOWEN & KINGSBURY, PRINTERS PRESS & DAKOTAN OFFICE,
1876.

Persons wishing information in regard to any particular county, will receive such information, promptly and free of charge, by addressing the agent of such county. A full list of county agents and their addresses may be found on the last page of this book.

The Superintendent's office is in room 60, Morrison's block, adjoining the
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Pamphlet
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tion, Yankton, D. T., or any member of the Bureau or county agent.

IMMIGRANT HOUSES.

Two immigrant houses have been built at Yankton, each 24 feet wide by 100 feet long, one and a half stories high, situated near the Dakota Southern railroad, where immigrants will be unloaded and will be provided with temporary quarters free. These houses are also near the Missouri river, where the best of water may be had.

82-16 Q412

DAKOTA'S INVITATION.

BY JOHN BRENNAN.

To the west of Minnesota,
And beyond the silv'ry Sioux,
Lies a country called Dakota,
Where the skies are ever blue ;
So, stranger, come and find a home,
If fortune you pursue ;
'Tis a glorious land of prairies grand,
And the skies forever blue.

It is not like Louisiana,
Where the Mississippi flows,
And the tempting fruit banana
In the kitchen garden flows ;
'Tis a land of work, where beef and pork
Around the farm house lie,
And every plain abounds in grain,
And the corn grows twelve feet high.

It is not a mazy woodland,
Where the civilizer crawls,
But a level and a good land,
With its streams and waterfalls ;
Where Uncle Samuel gives a farm
To every one who calls,
A farm of land—of prairies grand,
'Mid streams and waterfalls.

Upon the plains the buffalo
In countless herds abound ;
And, in her rivers, fishes grow
That weigh a hundred pounds ;
From mountain snows Missouri flows,
And when the spring-time smiles,
Impelled by steam, boats ply the stream
For twenty hundred miles.

Here nature plies her fingers
And portrays her brightest page,
And the life of boyhood lingers
In the bending form of age ;
Here nature sends her healing winds
Fell sickness to assuage ;
'Tis a land of health—heaven's choicest wealth
And boyhood in old age.

In Dakota there are mountains,
(And they're near Montana's line),
Where petroleum springs in fountains,
And the hills are "black" with pine ;
And oh ! 'tis there the pioneer
His ponch with lucre fills ;
Black, stern and bold, but rich in gold,
Is the land of the "Black Hills."

From the dreary steepes of Russia
Come the hardy Mennonites,
And here the sons of Prussia
Seek new homes and equal rights ;
And sons of France and Ireland
With Scandinavian too,
Live in this land of prairies grand,
And the skies forever blue.

So to your eastern hovel
Bid farewell forevermore,
Bring along your pick and shovel,
And dig out the shining ore ;
On willing heart and working hand
Dame Fortune ever shines,
So try your hand on prairie land,
Or dig among the mines.

DAKOTA.

DAKOTA TERRITORY is the most eastern Territory ; adjoins the States of Iowa and Minnesota on the east, and lying north of the State of Nebraska. Many persons, not acquainted with its location, without consulting a late map—and knowing it only as a *Territory*—locate it in the neighborhood of the Rocky Mountains, because all the Territories are in that region; and do not realize that there is a Territory containing 150,000 square miles or 96,000,000 acres of as good land as any of the States of the west can boast; and this, too, although a Territory, lying adjoining three of the great States of the west, and in point of accessibility almost at the very door of Chicago, being only 36 hours travel by rail direct to Yankton, the Capital. The question will naturally arise in the mind of the observing reader : “Why is such a good country, and so easy of access, yet a Territory !” I will answer this question. Until the year 1858, what is now Dakota, was uncaded land, and belonged to the Sioux Indians. In that year the treaty was made, and the Indians removed. In fact Dakota had no existence until the winter of 1860–61, for it was not organized as a Territory until that time, President Buchanan signing the bill on the 2d day of March, 1861. This was just at the commencement of the rebellion, and during the continuation of the war, and for two years after its close, emigration was entirely stopped by the continual drain that was made on the States to supply men for the army. Another great check to the settlement of Dakota was the Indian troubles which began in Minnesota and extended to northwestern Iowa and into Dakota, lasting through 1862 and 1863, when the main portion of the inhabitants, who had settled here, left the Territory, as it was impossible for them to protect themselves. It was not until the

year 1868 that Dakota had what might be termed an immigration ; although a few each year happened to come along, and being attracted by the superiority of the soil and climate, settled here. Another thing which has kept Dakota back in the matter of immigration, is the lack of railroads, never having had any large land grants to encourage companies to crowd lines of roads into the interior ahead of settlement, and to contribute money to advertise the country, and to organize immigration schemes, involving the expenditure of thousands of dollars, beside which the greatest effort and expenditure which has been made by Dakota would not be entitled to notice. With all these drawbacks Dakota prospers, and makes headway sure, if not so rapid ; and now numbers within its bounds about fifty or fifty-five thousand contented and happy settlers. And now that its splendid soil, healthful climate and advantages of compact settlement are becoming more widely known, it is being rapidly filled up with a good class of settlers ; wild prairies are being turned into productive farms ; good comfortable houses and barns are taking the place of the “ shanty ” and the straw stable ; water-powers are being looked after ; mills being built ; towns and villages springing up where all was a wild country a few months ago. All seems life and prosperity. Good, healthy, prosperous railroads are following up the settlement as fast as it is found profitable ; and it is evident Dakota has passed its “ dark days,” and its future is bright and prosperous.—Those who may be induced to cast their lot with us, will not have to suffer the inconveniences of a pioneer life, but will have the advantage of settling in a prosperous country where the settlements are not cut up and scattered by large land grants or speculators’ lands, and where the people are not burdened by heavy debts incurred by bonding counties to give subsidies to railroads. Here the settler can have his choice of land, there being (except through the central part,) no reserved lands. He can here help to form the country, for

“ The rudiments of Empire here
Are plastic yet and warm ;
The chaos of a mighty world
Is rounding into form.”

THE SURFACE OF THE COUNTRY.

Along all the rivers and streams there is generally a level valley from one to twenty miles wide and in the Red River of the North the valley is forty miles wide. These valleys are a dark loam, three to four feet deep. Back from the streams the land rises eight to ten feet. Often the rise is so gradual that a person travels along and does not perceive it. This forms what is called "table lands," which is often almost a perfect level for miles, just having descent enough to give it a proper drainage. Generally though the "table lands" are beautiful rolling prairies, almost entirely free from gravel knolls, stone or boulders, though occasionally may be found a small section where there are boulders or a few gravelly points. The soil on the table lands is rich, and covered with a heavy growth of grass. Persons living among the mountains in the eastern states will hardly believe us, when we tell them that here in Dakota can be found thousands of farms of 160 acres each, every foot of which is level soil, and without a stone or gravel point. To make farms from these virgin prairies, they would go to work in May or June and break the land; the next year put in their crop of wheat, oats or corn and they would have a farm on which they could go right along, raising one crop after the other for years without manuring; although we do think that after the third or fourth crop is taken off it would be a good plan to manure slightly. Dakota has 96,000,000 acres of land; is twenty times larger than the state of Massachusetts, and would make four states as large as Ohio. Two-thirds of this vast extent of country is the very best of farming land, capable of supporting a large population. The other one-third, with the exception of a small part, is splendid grazing land, with grass enough for summer pasture, and bottoms where hay enough can be made to support an immense number of cattle, sheep and horses.

RIVERS, LAKES, ETC.

The rivers in the southern part of Dakota, are the Missouri which enters the territory near the northwest corner and runs diagonally across the territory, forming the southern boundary for a distance of about eighty-five miles, giving to this territory an outlet to St. Louis and New Orleans south, and

to the numerous forts, Indian agencies and Fort Benton in Montana, a distance of 1500 miles to the northwest. Large, first-class steamers make from three to four trips to Fort Benton during the season, each one carrying three to four hundred tons of freight, beside a large number of passengers.—The Big Sioux, which rises in the central part of the territory near the eastern boundary, runs south forming the boundary line between Iowa and Dakota for the distance of seventy-two miles, and empties into the Missouri at the southeast corner of the territory. It is about two hundred miles long, has a great many tributaries flowing from the east and west, which are the outlets of lakes. It has considerable fall, furnishing a large number of as good water powers as can be found in the west; especially is this the case at Sioux Falls, where there is a fall of 110 feet in about half a mile. When this is improved it will furnish power to run a number of flouring mills, besides other manufactories. There are now a number of large mills in successful operation on this stream, and yet, there are dozens of splendid sites for mills yet to be improved, where a mill would have all the work it could do as soon as completed.

The Vermillion river rises in Lake Thompson, Wood county, is about one hundred and eight miles long, runs south parallel with the Big Sioux river, at the farthest point only about twenty-five miles from that stream, and empties into the Missouri river. It is fed by numerous small streams which drain large scopes of country, besides carrying into it the surplus water of a large number of lakes. There are four flouring mills operating successfully on this stream, and yet there are a number of good locations for mills awaiting improvement.

Dakota or James river rises in the north part of the territory, runs south and empties into the Missouri about twenty-five miles above the mouth of the Vermillion. It is, with the exception of the Missouri and the Yellowstone, (which latter just barely enters the territory,) the longest river in Dakota, it being about 330 miles long in a direct line. It has a number of quite large tributaries beside many large lakes to feed it, and keeps up a good flow of water the whole time. It will furnish a number of water powers for mills and other manu-

factories. There is one mill in operation, and two now being constructed, while there are many good locations awaiting the coming of some person with capital to improve them.

West of the Missouri there are a great number of quite large rivers. The largest of these is the Yellowstone, which rises in the mountain ranges, runs northeast, just touching Dakota, and empties into the Missouri river. This stream is navigable for large sized steamers for a great many miles into Montana.

The next river in size is the Big Cheyenne, one branch of which rises northwest of the Black Hills, passes round the base north of the hills to the east, while the other branch rises southwest and passes round the south base of the hills to the east side, where it forms a junction with the north branch, from which point it flows almost east, being fed by numerous smaller streams on both sides, and empties into the Missouri river.

The next river in size is the Little Missouri which rises just north of the Black Hills, runs nearly north and flows into the Missouri river. The White river comes next in size, rises in the northwest corner of Nebraska, runs a little north of east and empties into the Missouri. The Niobrara which forms the southern boundary of Dakota for a distance of about sixty miles, rises in the eastern part of Wyoming, runs east and flows into the Missouri. These are only the largest of the streams in the western and southwestern part of Dakota, or what is known as the Sioux Indian reservation.—There are many more streams, but on account of the country never having been explored to any extent, they are not named and but little is known of them, only that they drain large extents of country and carry off large quantities of water.

The Red River of the North takes its rise in Lake Traverse, runs north and forms the eastern boundary of Dakota for a distance of 200 miles, and is navigable in high water to Wahpeton, in Richland county, and during the entire summer to Fargo. A regular line of good steamers ply at all times of summer between Fargo, Dakota, and Fort Garry, Manitoba, carrying immense amounts of freight and a large number of passengers both ways. It is fed by a great number of quite large streams on both sides; among those on the Dakota side

we might mention are the Wild Rice, Sheyenne, Elm, Goose, Grand Coule, Coven, Turtle, Salt, Park and Pembina. On all these streams there is considerable good timber and large bodies of splendid timber line the banks of the Red river, almost the entire distance. The valley of the Red river is about 40 miles wide, running the entire length of the river in Dakota, and for soil and advantages for agriculture, and for water and grass for stock raising, it is equal if not superior to any part of the west, and offers the very best of inducements to persons seeking a home in the west. There are a number of towns springing up on the Red river, the most important of which, at the present time, is Fargo, the county seat of Cass county; Pembina, the county seat of Pembina county; Grand Forks, the county seat of Grand Forks county; Wahpeton, the county seat of Richland county, and Goose River, the county seat of Traill county.

NORTHERN DAKOTA.

PEMBINA, D. T., January 3d, 1876.

HON. FRED. J. CROSS,

Superintendent of Immigration, Yankton, D. T.:

SIR:—As your forthcoming published description of Dakota territory, for the purpose of inducing immigration thereto, will probably soon be issued, and in pursuance of your request, I desire to give you for insertion therein a brief description of that portion of the extreme northeast portion of Dakota lying in the valley of the Red River of the North, the southern part of which has within the last three or four years come quite prominently into notice as a good agricultural country through the St. Paul & Pacific and Northern Pacific railroad companies, as is evidenced by the rapid settlement of Richland, Cass, Barnes, Traill and Grand Forks counties, and the thriving and prosperous towns of Wahpeton, Fargo, Jamestown, Grand Forks and others. The soil in this valley—an extent of country 40x200 miles in Dakota territory—is second to none, being specially adapted to wheat and other small grains, vegetables and stock raising. It is capable of sustaining a population of 100,000 people, and raising wheat enough to nearly supply the world. In an ordinary season, wheat will yield from 25 to 50 bushels per acre; oats from 50 to 70, while the quantity and quality of vegetables that can be produced here from a given area, is remarkable. The valley is well watered by numerous small tributaries to the Red river, viz: Wild Rice, Elm, Goose, Turtle, Salt, Park, Tongue and Pembina rivers. The heads of these streams particularly

are well timbered, and the water pure and sweet. The northern portion of this valley has not as yet come as prominently to the notice of home seekers as the southern part on account of distance from railroads and lack of advertising mediums. The northern part of Grand Forks county and Pembina county are undoubtedly the best timbered portions ; at least one-sixth of the area of Pembina county is timbered land, comprising a dozen varieties of timber, suitable for all purposes. This county is also probably the best stock raising portion of northeastern Dakota ; the timber and brush lands affording fine sheltered situations, and the prairies an abundance of splendid grazing and hay lands. Climate is good and healthy—no malarious diseases. Winters, though cold and protracted, are dry and bracing ; the entire snow-fall rarely exceeds 12 inches. Land traffic and travel is done entirely with sleds for a period of about four months during the winter season. The rain fall during the summer of 1875, as taken from the records of the United States signal service observer, was as follows :

	INCHES.
May.....	1.87
June.....	3.83
July.....	1.18
August.....	2.16
September.....	0.92
October.....	1.26
Total.....	11.68

During the past season about 400 acres of wheat were raised in Pembina county, the average yield being fully 35 bushels to the acre of fine wheat ; some fields averaging as high as 50 bushels per acre. Wheat is now finding a ready market at \$1.25 per bushel ; oats, \$1.10 ; barley, \$1.10 ; potatoes, \$1 ; peas, \$2 ; and all other farm products in proportion.

The village of Pembina, located on Red river, at the mouth of Pembina river, and near the International boundary, is the county seat of Pembina county ; it is a growing town with good future prospects, and will be a place of considerable importance in a few years, being the port of transfer of the entire trade between the British Possessions and the United States. Artisans and tradesmen of all kinds can find good openings in the Red river valley for establishing permanent and paying business and employment. Immigrants and farmers can find as good, if not better, locations in this section of country than in any other part of the northwest.

Very Respectfully,

WM. R. GOODFELLOW,
County Agent, etc., Pembina county, D. T.

TIMBER.

Along most of the streams there is generally some timber, but not always. The principal part of the timber in southern Dakota, is along the Missouri river, which consists of soft maple, cottonwood, oak, ash, hackberry, elm, and some black walnut. Along the Big Sioux, there is considerable timber. Some good sized bodies of timber are found along the Vermillion and James rivers ; but they are isolated and generally several miles apart. Some very fine bodies of timber are found in ravines that make down from the rolling prairies to the streams or bottom lands. On many of the lakes there is considerable timber. The Black Hills, lying in the southwestern portion of the Territory, are covered with a heavy growth of good pine timber. This country is now held as the Sioux Indian reservation, but soon will be opened, when plenty of good pine lumber will be shipped into southern Dakota, cheap. At present pine lumber is shipped here from the mills at Minneapolis and sold very reasonable, as it can be shipped right through by rail without change of cars.

The general government has made a very good provision to encourage the cultivation of forest trees, by the donation of a quarter section of land to persons who will plant and cultivate timber. The general provisions of this act will be found on another page of this pamphlet. Forest trees can be cultivated as easily as corn. Plenty of small cottonwoods one to two years old can be had on the sand bars along the Missouri, where they may be pulled up by hand. Any quantity of soft maple, box-elder and ash seed can be gathered. This seed can be planted in drills and the second year taken up and transplanted as required. Cottonwood is one of the most rapid growing trees known ; it will grow in five years from the size of a whip to a tree twenty to twenty-five feet high ; and in a few years furnish wood enough to supply a family with fuel. Settlers who have been here a few years, and who paid proper attention to setting out trees, when they first settled, have now nice groves of thrifty timber, which add much to the beauty and comfort of their places.

FUEL.

People in those parts of the east that are favored to a little greater extent than the west is, are liable to form an errone-

ous idea on the fuel question. Wood is as cheap in Dakota as it is in any of the states, and is selling on the streets of our towns at \$4.00 per cord for cottonwood, and \$6.00 per cord for good body hard wood. Coal is brought by rail from Fort Dodge, Iowa, and sold by the dealers at the railroad stations for \$7.00 per ton, while hard coal sells at \$17.00 per ton. No coal has yet been found in southern Dakota, but we are assured by persons who understand the location of coal, that there is coal here at no great depth, without a doubt; but as yet there has been no effort made to discover it. At Ponca, on the opposite side of the Missouri, a vein of a foot in thickness has been found; and on the Big Sioux, on the Iowa side, thin layers of coal have been found, but it has never been prospected to any extent. On the Missouri river and other streams, a few hundred miles above here, large veins of good coal crop out; and should coal not be found in southern Dakota, it is only a matter of a little time when railroads will be crowding ahead into that country to bring forward its known mineral wealth, and coal will be brought to southern Dakota at prices much below what it can be had in many of the eastern states. There is enough timber found along the streams to furnish fuel for a number of years for a much larger number of settlers than are now here, and by exercising a little care to keep the fires out of it, it will all the time increase; beside, the settlers are planting timber to a great extent, and a few years will see a large increase of timber in the country, each farmer having his own beautiful grove which will furnish him his fuel, without subjecting him to the inconvenience of going off from his own land to get his wood.

STONE

For building purposes is found in most parts of southern Dakota. A superior quality of building stone is found at Sioux Falls and Dell Rapids on the Sioux river; at the Palisades on the Split Rock, one of the branches of the Sioux, and at Rockport and vicinity on the James river. This is a very hard stone of a reddish cast, and called by some Sioux Quartzite. At Gary, Deuel county, on the line of the Winona & St. Peter railroad, is found large ledges of splendid limestone, from which Capt. Herrick, the pioneer of that section of country, is making quite a business of burning lime and

shipping by railroad. At Yankton, Bon Homme, Springfield, and other points on the Missouri river, is found large ledges of magnesian limestone, which is quarried very easily, and sawed into any required size or shape, and used quite extensively for building purposes. Limestone boulders, or drift rock, are found on the prairies, which make a good quality of lime, and furnishes all of that material that is needed for building purposes. The prairies are not generally stony, but enough boulders or drift rock is found to build foundations for buildings, wall up wells, etc.

CLAY

Of a good quality for the manufacture of brick has been found in every part of the Territory, where an effort in this direction has been made. The manufacture of brick is made quite profitable by many persons who are engaged in that business. Good substantial brick buildings are taking the place of wooden buildings in many of the towns.

WHEAT.

Dakota seems peculiarly adapted to the raising of wheat. According to Blodgett, the author of a very able work on the climatology of the United States, the thermal capacity required for the successful cultivation of wheat, is a mean temperature of from 62 to 65 degrees during the growing months. It will be found by referring to the table in another part of this book, that this territory has a considerable excess of the temperature required. An important feature in the soil of Dakota is that its earthy materials are minutely pulverized, and the soil is everywhere light, mellow and spongy. The wheat raised in Dakota makes a quality of flour almost equal to the best winter wheat, and is sold in the eastern markets at a price only a trifle less. This superiority having become known to the millers east, much of the crop of the past season has been bought by them here, and shipped direct to the mills. The soundness and fullness of the grain, is unmistakably indicated by the fact that it *commands a higher price* than any western state grain, when it goes to market unmixed and well cleaned. Wheat is sown generally in March, and harvest commences about the 15th to the 20th of July; yields 15 to 45 bushels per acre. This great difference in the

yield is chiefly owing to the manner in which the grain is put in.

RYE

Has not been raised to any great extent ; but where it has been tried it has done very well, yielding well and proving a very profitable crop.

OATS

Are generally sown the first part of April, and yield 50 to 75 bushels per acre, of a superior quality, weighing from 35 to 45 pounds to the measured bushel; being a very profitable crop for the farmer to raise.

BARLEY

Is sown in April, is a sure crop; yields 35 to 45 bushels per acre. The dryness of the atmosphere being very favorable, the grain is generally of a good quality.

FLAX

Has not been raised to any extent until the past season, when considerable was sown, The soil and climate seem well adapted to raising it, and as soon as the mills are built to manufacture the seed into oil, this will be a profitable crop to raise, as the yield is large and a splendid quality. It is a profitable crop to raise to ship the seed to eastern manufacturers; but no doubt by the time another crop is ready there will be mills built ready to work it up.

CORN.

The corn producing belt of country which runs through Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, extends northwest through Iowa, up the valley of the Missouri, through Dakota. According to Blodgett, the thermal capacity required for the successful cultivation of Indian corn is a mean temperature of 67 degrees for July, and it may go a little beyond 67 for the summer. By referring to the table giving the mean temperature of this part of the Territory, it is found that the mean temperature for the month of July, 1874, was 78.2 degrees; an excess of 11.2 degrees; and for July, 1875, it was 71.8 degrees; an excess of 4.8 degrees. Corn until the past season had been a neglected crop, but last spring there was more than double the acreage planted of any former year, and the yield was largely in excess of the anticipations of all, proving that this

section is well adapted to the raising of corn. Corn is generally planted about the 15th of May. The seasons are favorable and plenty long enough to allow it to mature perfectly, as we hardly ever have frost until about the 15th or 20th of September. The past season we had no frost to hurt vegetation until the 11th of October. The richness and warm nature of the soil crowd corn ahead very fast and to an enormous height, 12 to 16 feet high being quite common, and yielding 50 to 75 bushels per acre acre.

BROOM CORN.

For the cultivation of this most profitable crop no place can be found better adapted than the rich bottom lands of Dakota. Many the past season have made a commencement in the cultivation of broom corn, and have met with perfect success, in raising large crops and of a superior quality. We are told by persons who are judges of the article and have made it a study, that they never saw a better article than that raised in Dakota the past season.

SORGHUM.

The rich, light, warm soil of Dakota seems well adapted to the growing of sorghum. There is not much raised yet, for the reason that there are no mills or factories, where the people can get it worked up, there being as yet only a few small mills, owned by farmers, who do not manufacture much more than their own. A few good factories if established here would find plenty of business.

POTATOES, ETC.,

Yield large crops, usually 100 to 200 bushels per acre and of an excellent quality. Beets, turnips, cabbage, etc., grow to an enormous size.

BREAKING.

The time to break prairie sod is from the 20th of May to about the 20th of July; the difference in the seasons might make a few days difference one way or the other. To insure a large yield it should be cross plowed early in the fall, but many sow wheat right on the breaking the next spring and get a fair yield. Many farmers plant sod corn on the land broken in May and June, and often get a fair crop. It is not much labor to plant corn on the sod as it never requires

any working and is always sure to produce feed enough to pay well for the labor. A good team of horses or oxen with a 12 inch plow, will break one to two acres a day on the table land where the sod is not too heavy. The breaking is all the labor necessary to start a farm here on the prairies. Persons who are not prepared to break their own land, can hire it done at \$2 to \$4 per acre.

FRUIT.

The people in the older settled counties are just commencing to plant fruit trees, and from appearances we feel safe in predicting that it will not be long before Dakota will be able to show a fruit product that will compare quite favorably with many parts of the east, or older settled parts of the country. It is only a matter of time, and a little experiment, to find what varieties are best suited to the soil and climate, as it has been in all countries when first settling. Wild fruits such as plums, grapes, mulberries, gooseberries and raspberries grow in great profusion, and of an excellent quality, here. At the Union County Fair, 1875, there was exhibited some very fair samples of apples raised in that county, it being the oldest settled county in southern Dakota. The people are commencing to turn their attention to the cultivation of fruit, and from present appearances will soon have sufficient for their own use.

STOCK RAISING.

For persons wishing to engage in this branch of business Dakota offers inducements equal, if not superior, to any part of the west. Those with capital can here secure large tracts of land on streams or lakes, and can have their own land for range and hay. Persons with small capital, who may wish to combine farming and stock raising, can here, by using the three rights which every settler has, viz: Homestead, pre-emption and timber culture, secure 480 acres of land at a cost in money of only \$238. This will give plenty of land for farming, range for stock, and plenty of land for hay. Any person who would bring to this country at this time some good thorough bred stock would make, if not a fortune, at least the best paying investment possible to be made with money, for the people are beginning to turn their attention to improving their stock. The dryness of the atmosphere,

total absence of rain or sleet in winter, and the very light falls of snow, (the whole snow fall during the worst winters being not over a foot in depth, and often none,) makes this one of the best places for sheep raising in the west ; and those who have engaged in the business are meeting with perfect success.

HERD LAW.

On account of the scarcity of timber suitable for fencing, and having at that time no direct railroad communication with the lumber producing districts of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and to encourage the settlement of interior counties containing no heavy bodies of timber, the legislature of 1870-71, passed an act termed a "Herd Law," and now all stock are kept in fenced pastures or are herded through the day and kept in a yard at night. Cultivated lands are not fenced. Therefore persons with small means are enabled to commence farming here without being to the expense of fencing, which is a great saving.

MARKETS.

Dakota has a good home market which is caused by the large number of immigrants who are constantly arriving, and are in a great measure for the first year consumers and not producers to any extent, and have to buy their provisions besides hundreds of bushels of grain to sow to produce their first crop. Besides this, there is a great amount of provisions of all kinds required at the Indian agencies and forts on the Missouri, which is a market not to be found in other parts of the west. The surplus, over and above supplying all these demands, seeks an eastern market, of which Dakota has a choice of St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Chicago, as we have direct railroad connection with each of them. A great part of the surplus of Dakota's wheat, from its superior quality, goes direct to large mills. Minneapolis, Minnesota ; Kankakee, Illinois, and other large mills at the east have bought large quantities of wheat here in our markets to supply their mills this year.

CLIMATE, ETC.

The following tables, showing the temperature and rain fall, was procured from the records of the United States signal service observer at Yankton, Dakota :

YEAR.	Mean Temperature		Greatest Heat.	Greatest Cold.	Inches of Rain or Melted Snow.		Number of days Rain or Snow fell.	YEAR.	Mean Temperature		Greatest Heat.	Greatest Cold.	Inches of Rain or Melted Snow.		Number of days Rain or Snow fell.
1874.	Deg's	10ths	Deg's	In's	Deg's	100th		1875.	Deg's	10ths	Deg's	Deg's	In's	100th	
January.....	15	6	52	*20	....	57	8	January .....	..	6	32	*25	1	07	14
February.....	18	8	58	*4	....	65	4	February.....	2	5	31	*22	1	51	16
March.....	30	6	58	7	....	79	4	March.....	23	7	72	*12	1	79	12
April.....	44	4	89	15	....	24	2	April.....	40	4	82	17	5	26	10
May.....	64	5	92	35	2	59	10	May.....	51	2	89	24	2	04	10
June.....	70	7	94	44	6	65	14	June.....	66	1	92	42	9	21	9
July.....	78	2	97	54	3	84	12	July.....	71	8	93	52	5	53	9
August.....	74	2	101	50	4	05	11	August.....	68	3	87	45	4	95	11
September....	61	7	95	30	1	74	18	September....	50	5	89	31	5	33	9
October.....	49	4	85	16	1	64	7	October.....	74	2	87	18	.	14	3
November.....	30	4	71	0	....	56	7	November....	28	9	65	*15	.	12	5
December.....	23	0	56	*14	....	51	6	December....	27	35	62	*15	.	20	4

*Below zero.

We have procured and publish the foregoing tables to show to persons who may be looking to the west with a view to selecting a location for a future home, that Dakota is not a parched and dried up country, as is erroneously supposed by many who have not had the chance to investigate the matter properly. The reader will notice that the greatest amount of rain falls in the months when vegetation is growing, and is needed, which is from April to September, the most falling at the very time when crops need it the most for maturing them. Snows are very light, the whole fall for an entire winter not exceeding twelve inches, and occasionally none the whole winter. The atmosphere is very dry, and with the temperature as low as 25 degrees below zero, a person that is out will not feel the cold as much as he would in the eastern states when the temperature was 8 or 10 degrees below zero. The summers are very pleasant, and although the temperature may rise to 100 and 108 degrees in the shade, as it occasionally does, yet it is seldom sultry on account of a light breeze which generally rises about 9 o'clock, A. M.

As regards health, Dakota has no superior, the atmosphere being very dry and pure. Persons affected with consumption and diseases of the lungs by coming here find immediate relief, and often an effectual cure. Fever and ague is unknown, and cases of any kind of fever are very rare. Come to Dakota if you wish to find a mild climate, dry and healthy winters, and save doctors' bills.

VACANT LANDS.

There are thousands of acres of good land yet unoccupied and open to homestead, pre-emption and timber claims. It is not for us to tell an immigrant which is the best part to settle in, and could not if we wished to, for it is all good.—There is plenty of vacant land in most every county, and persons coming to Dakota need have no fears but what they will be able to suit themselves and find a splendid place.

COLONIES.

Dakota offers good inducements to colonies. Here large tracts of unoccupied government land can be found in most of the counties where colonies can settle and form one unbroken settlement; form their own school district; assist each other in many ways, and in fact never hardly know or feel as though they were in a new place; for they would have all their old associates around them. It is undoubtedly a good plan where there is a number of families or persons going from one section to go together, and settle together, but we do not advise uniting with a colony and placing property in common: that is apt to lead sooner or later to dissatisfaction.

BLACK HILLS.

This rich mineral region lies almost entirely in Dakota, about 285 miles west of Yankton, the terminus of the Dakota Southern railroad. We are expected at this time of course to say something about this region and its great mineral wealth, but to do so would only be to re-publish what has been published by nearly every newspaper in the land.—Thousands of dollars worth of gold dust have been brought to Yankton within the past month, and exchanged for provisions and supplies. That there is gold, silver, lead, coal and iron in large quantities in that part of Dakota we think none can doubt, for it has been an acknowledged fact for years, as shown by the reports of Astor's fur parties, in 1811; Captain Bonneville, in 1834; General Harney, in 1855; Dr. Hayden, in 1858-9; Gen. Sully, in 1864; Col. James Sawyer, in 1865; Lieut. General Sheridan in his report of 1874. Gen. Custer, after exploring in 1874, and Professor Jenney, who was sent expressly by the government to explore the country in 1875, report it rich in gold; besides the hundreds of miners who

have been there within the past year and are there now, all report rich mining. As an agricultural and grazing country we are assured by many that it will compare quite favorably in many of the beautiful valleys with any part of the west ; while timber of an excellent quality is abundant. It will be seen that aside from its great mineral wealth it has all that is necessary to make it an inviting spot for persons who do not wish to engage in mining as a business. Capt. Davy, feeling confident of the rich mineral deposits in the Black Hills, in the year 1868, organized a large expedition to go there, but on account of its being a part of the Sioux Indian reservation, the government forbid the expedition entering the country, and it was abandoned. At the present time parties of miners are going in from all directions and are not molested or stopped by the troops.

The Missouri River Transportation Co., will carry passengers and freight going to the Hills, on their splendid steamers at reasonable rates, from Yankton to any of the points on the Missouri river. Bismarck is also offering, through stage and freighting companies inducements to persons to go by the route starting from that place, and persons who may go that way need have no fears but what they will find some way for them to get through. Many places are setting up claims to being the nearest point, and on the most direct and best route to the Hills. To persons contemplating going to the Black Hills, we would say that any of the routes that cross the Missouri between Yankton and Bismarck are by great odds the best for them to take. This will be perfectly clear to any person who will take the trouble to look at a map of the country for it will be seen that all the streams have their sources in the west and flow almost in a direct line east, emptying into the Missouri between these two points. All these streams have valleys which are almost level along them, which is a good natural route, the streams furnishing water for stock, while the valleys furnish an abundance of grass. Any of the routes from the south, starting on the Union Pacific side, have long stretches of sand hills, and plains, without grass, wood or water, and steep almost impassable hills, deep canons and ravines which have to be crossed, making it a bad route for persons to take who care for speed, comfort, or their teams.

RAILROADS.

There is at present only four lines of railroad in the Territory. The longest of which is the Northern Pacific, which enters Dakota at Fargo, a town of considerable importance, on the Red River of the North, and runs a little over half way across the Territory or a distance of about 200 miles, its western terminus being Bismarck, a flourishing town on the Missouri river. This road will in course of time be built through to the Pacific, and will make one of the greatest thoroughfares in the United States. There are a number of towns along the line, among which we might mention Worthington, Jamestown and Crystal Springs.

The next road in length is the Dakota Southern, with its eastern terminus at Sioux City. It enters Dakota about four miles west of that place, passing all the way for 60 miles through the well settled and beautiful Missouri valley, to Yankton, the capital of the Territory, which is at present its western terminus. There are many brisk towns and good business points on this line; they are Elk Point, Vermillion, Jefferson, (the junction of the Sioux City & Pembina railroad) Burbank, Meckling and Gayville. This road is doing a heavy business and in the event of the opening of the Black Hills, it will be pushed through, and will be the outlet for the great mineral wealth of that section, besides being the main line of travel for persons going to that mineral region. In fact its western terminus (Yankton) is by many miles the nearest railroad point to the Black Hills, and much the shortest and best route for persons from the east and south to take in going there. The Winona & St. Peters railroad is completed for about 40 miles into Dakota; its western terminus being at Lake Kampeska, in Hamlin county. There being only a few settlers in the section of country through which this road passes, the company as yet do not run trains further west than Marshall, Minnesota, though the road is all completed. The Sioux City & Pembina railroad is now being completed. It forms a junction with the Dakota Southern railroad at Jefferson and running north crosses the Big Sioux river, and follows the rich, well settled valley of the Sioux, and will recross the river to the Dakota side at Canton, and pass through Sioux Falls, Dell Rapids, Flandreau and Medary, all flour-

ishing towns on the Sioux river; thence north and down the Red River of the North through that rich grazing and agricultural valley to its northern terminus, Pembina. The above constitute all the completed lines of railroad, but many others will soon be commenced. The Sioux City & St. Paul railroad company are building a branch road from Worthington to Sioux Falls, thirty miles of which is nearly completed, and will be extended southwest through the well settled and rich farming counties of Minnehaha, Lincoln, Turner and Yankton, to Yankton. This road will form the outlet for agricultural products of the country to Minneapolis, St. Paul and Milwaukee, and be a direct line for the shipment of lumber to this country. One other railroad, (the St. Paul & Pacific) is completed to the eastern line of Dakota, its terminus being at Breckinridge, Minnesota, on the Red River of the North. Wahpeton, the county seat of Richland county, is situated on the west side of the river. This road forms a direct route from St. Paul for immigrants going to Richland county, or that part of Dakota. The St. Vincent extension of the St. Paul & Pacific, having for its northern terminus Pembina the county seat of Pembina county, on the Red River of the North, is nearly completed, and the coming summer will be entirely completed and running to Pembina, and will be a direct route for immigrants going to that part of Dakota.

Other lines of roads are being pushed forward through the states of Iowa and Minnesota, some of which have good land grants in those states, and their early completion is a certainty. These roads will cross our Territory from east to west, having in view different points on the Missouri river, to secure the heavy freighting of government supplies which seeks that stream to be distributed by boats to the different Forts and Indian Agencies; or to crowd still further and into the rich mining regions lying to the west. These great attractions lying to the west of the agricultural portion of Dakota, insures to the eastern portion of the Territory many good lines of road by which to ship their grain, not only to the eastern market, but also to the forts and non-producing mining regions to the west, which are all the time steadily increasing. Dakota will be thus placed in a position to choose its market. It is only a matter of a little time, when in east-

ern Dakota it will be almost impossible to get out of the reach of the sound of the whistle of the "iron horse," even where to-day it is one vast uninhabited country, awaiting the coming of some poor landless immigrant to take his 160 acres as a free gift and have a home.

SCHOOLS.

The school laws of Dakota are similar to those of many of the states, and provides for the support of *free schools*. The property is assessed for the support of the schools in the same manner as other taxes are assessed. A title to the public lands can only be acquired by actual settlement in Dakota, therefore the settlements are very compact, making it easy to form school districts; and no settler will be very far from the school. Good district schools are to be found in all the settled portions of the Territory. And the country is being settled so very fast, that should a person for the purpose of selecting a choice location, go a little outside of the line of settlement, he would not have long to live there ere he would be surrounded by other settlers, when a school district would be organized. Dakota when it becomes a state will have a large school fund created by the sale of the lands which were reserved by the general government for school purposes, there being two sections of these lands (sections 16 and 36) in each township.

RESIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

The Methodist, Congregational, Baptist, Lutheran, Episcopalian and Catholic denominations, have services in all the towns, besides in nearly every school district or settlement there are regular services held each Sabbath, and generally good well attended Sabbath schools are kept in connection with most of the churches. Good churches are found in all the towns and others are being built.

SOCIETY.

The society will compare favorably with any section of country. Not as supposed by some persons in the east, that society in a new country must of necessity be in a disorderly state, and lawlessness reign. Here we have people from nearly every eastern state; educated, refined and moral people, just fresh from the best society east, who have come here intending

to made a home, and are interested in building up good society, schools and churches, who encourage every enterprise having a moral tendency.

TAXES.

The matter of high or low taxes is a great question to persons seeking a home in the west, and it is an important question too, when we consider that the taxes in some parts of the west are about equal to the highest rate of interest allowed by law, in some of the eastern states. Persons settling in counties or states, which are so deeply in debt, or, that are so loosely managed that it is necessary to levy such high taxes, are taking, or purchasing land, which is subject to worse than a mortgage. And to settle in a country where the counties are allowed to contract debts, and issue warrants of the county in any sum, without regard to the amount of the assessment made in that year; they are placing themselves where they are liable to be burdened by taxes, that they will find it hard on a new farm, in a new country to meet. Taxes in Dakota are very light. In only two counties are they as high as two per cent.; in other counties, are from six to fifteen mills, mostly at eight mills on the dollar of valuation. Property is valued very low, on an average about one-third its value. One reason why taxes are so very low in Dakota is because the government pays the salaries of all the federal officers, the expense of the legislature, and most of the expense of the courts. Another reason for the low taxes is, that we have a law in our Territory which prohibits the officers of counties from issuing any bonds or warrants amounting in the aggregate to a sum larger than county tax levied for the year in which they are issued, unless the county commissioners shall be first authorized by a majority of the legal voters of said county, at any election when the proposition shall be submitted to them, and all warrants drawn for a larger amount than is authorized by law the commissioners are personally liable for.

INVESTMENTS.

To persons wishing to invest money in land for speculation, or persons of moderate means who may wish to engage in agricultural pursuits, Dakota at this time offers inducements superior to any other part of the west. The very best of

farming lands are selling at from \$3 to \$10 per acre in good settlements, near schools and thriving towns. The same land in a few years will sell readily for \$20 to \$30 per acre. Land at present is very cheap, but soon with the continued great rush of immigration, the government lands will be further removed from where the settlements now are, and prices will advance. The reason land is so low, or that there is considerable land offered for sale, is not because farming is unprofitable here; but because government land can be had as yet within a few miles. And many a pioneer will sell his beautiful home, for the sake of getting out of the thick settlement; while others come, as many do with small capital, or none at all, as is often the case, get a little start in the world and think they see a fortune within their grasp, and lose sight of the maxim "make haste slowly," branched out largely, bought too much machinery because they could get it on time, borrowed money at high rate of interest, mortgaged their land and now offer it low to save a little to commence on another new piece of government land which they can find by going a little further back.

WHAT SHALL WE BRING?

This question is asked repeatedly, and it is rather a hard question to answer; for there is such a great difference in the circumstances of people emigrating. Often it is the case that times are hard, money scarce, and articles a little worn but of real value can only be disposed of at a great sacrifice, often not one-fourth the real value. When this is the case it might be well to ship such thing by railroad. Freights are high, therefore emigrants will have to make their own calculations. Beds and bedding should be brought; these are things that would be the hardest to procure here. Furniture, stoves, hardware and all kinds of agricultural implements can be bought here about as cheap as any part of the states. Dry goods, clothing and groceries are about the same prices as in the east. Where a number of persons are starting from the same place, it is often advisable to charter a car, in this way many articles that would be of great use to persons when here might be shipped at a trifling cost.

WHEN TO START.

This depends on how immigrants intend to come. If by railroad it is best to come as early as April, so as to have time to buy teams; select land, and if you decide to settle on government land to build a small house before breaking season; for breaking must be done so as to be ready for seeding for the second year. Many break up a small piece early, and make a garden which is a great help to a family in a new country; also potatoes may be planted under the sod; a small piece thus planted will yield enough to supply a family.

If immigrants wish to come with their own teams and wagons, as many do, they should not start until the roads are in proper condition for traveling, and can get here by the first or middle of June, so as to do some breaking. Many rent an improved farm and raise a crop sufficient to support the family, and raise their seed grain for their own land.

This is a good plan as the settler will have plenty of time to build, and break, so the second year he is ready to go ahead on his own land. Plenty of farms can be rented very reasonable, the renter receiving two-thirds of the crop. Many charter a car and load their goods and team in the same car. This under some circumstances is a good plan, as it enables a person to come earlier in the season, and on his arrival his team is in a good condition to go right to work. A few days or weeks in the the spring makes a great difference to a person when just making a start on a new farm.

HOW TO REACH DAKOTA.

Immigrants going to southern Dakota can go by the Illinois Central railroad to Sioux City; Chicago & Northwestern railroad to Sioux city; St. Paul & Sioux City to Sioux City.

Each of the above roads connect at Sioux City at the same depot with the Dakota Southern railroad. The Dakota Southern connects at Elk Point with Howard's daily line of stages for Eden, Fairview, Beloit, Canton and Sioux Falls, and all points on the Big Sioux river. At Vermillion with Demming & Shurtleff's stages to Bloomingdale, Lodi, Riverside, Centerville, Turner and Finlay, and all points in the Vermillion valley. At Yankton with Demming & Shurtleff's daily line of stages to Swan Lake, Finlay, Wall Lake and

Sioux Falls ; Dakota Central Stage Company's daily line of stages to Scotland, Olivet, Milltown, Rockport, Rosedale and Firesteel, and all points in central Dakota ; Edgar & Company's daily stages to Bon Homme, Springfield, Fort Randall, Fort Thompson, to Fort Sully and all points on the Missouri river. Also in summer with the Missouri River Transportation Company's line of splendid freight and passenger steamers to Fort Benton, Montana, and all intermediate points on the Missouri river.

At Worthington, Minnesota ; Sibley and Le Mars, Iowa, and all intermediate stations on the St. Paul & Sioux City railroad, stages run to Sioux Falls, Canton, Eden and all other points in the Sioux valley.

Railroad Route to Deuel and Hamlin counties and the Upper Sioux Valley.—From Chicago via. Chicago & Northwestern (Elroy route) to Lake Kampeska. At Marshal, on this road, stages run to Medary, Flandreau, and other points on the Big Sioux river.

Railroad Route to the Upper Red River Valley.—From St. Paul via. St. Paul & Pacific to Breckinridge, Minnesota, on the Red River, where it connects with stages to all parts of Richland county, Dakota—Wahpeton, the county seat of Richland county being on the west bank of the river opposite Breckinridge.

Route to Central Dakota and the Red River Valley.—From St. Paul via. Northern Pacific railroad to Fargo, Worthington, Jamestown and Bismarck. At Fargo connections are made with stages to Grand Forks, Pembina, and all points in the Red River valley ; and in summer with good steamers which touch at all towns on the Red River.

NEWSPAPERS.

In Dakota there are at present eighteen newspapers published. We give below their address and terms of publication, and advise any one wishing information, to subscribe for one or more of them. Sample copies will be sent by the Superintendent of Immigration.

	TERMS.
Press and Dakotatian, Yankton, Yankton co., (Daily)	\$10 00
“ “ “ “ (Weekly)	2 00
Dakota Herald, Yankton, Yankton county.....	2 00
Freie Presse, (German), Yankton, Yankton county....	2 00
Independent, Sioux Falls, Minnehaha county.....	2 00
Pantagraph, “ “ “ “ “	2 00

Dakota Republican, Vermillion, Clay county.....	2 00
Clay County Register, " " (semi-weekly)	2 00
Swan Lake Era, Swan Lake, Turner county.....	2 00
Union County Courier, Elk Point, Union county.....	2 00
Springfield Times, Springfield, Bon Homme county....	2 00
Sioux Valley News, Canton, Lincoln county.....	2 00
North Pacific Mirror, Fargo, Cass county.....	2 00
Fargo Express, Fargo, Cass county.....	2 00
Plaindealer, Grand Forks, Grand Forks county.....	2 00
Bismarck Tribune, Bismarck, Burleigh county,.....	2 00
Review and Sentinel, Emerson, Ma. and Pembina, D. T.	2 00
Jim River Advocate, Firesteel, Dakota,.....	2 00

HOMESTEADS.

Dakota has several million acres of good farming lands now open for homesteads or pre-emptions. The provisions of the homestead law are so well known to every one that but little need be said on this subject. Every citizen, (male or female) who is twenty-one years of age, or the head of a family, or who has served fourteen days in the military service of the United States, and every person who may have declared his intention to become a citizen, is entitled to a homestead of 160 acres of prairie or timber land, upon the payment of \$14 at the local land office, of which there are five in Dakota—one at Sioux Falls, Minnehaha county; one at Springfield, Bon Homme county; one at Yankton, Yankton county; one at Fargo, Cass county, and one at Bismarck, Burleigh county. After entering the land by payment of the fee aforesaid, and filing an application in the land office, describing the land claimed, the homesteader has six months in which to make his preparations to move on to the land if he chooses to wait, or he can go on immediately and erect his house and break land and occupy and improve the said homestead in the same manner and with as much safety as if he had a patent for the same, provided he continues to reside upon and improve said land. At the expiration of five years from the date of his entry of said land by filing his application and paying \$2, the homesteader is permitted to prove by two good witnesses that he has resided upon said land and made it his exclusive home since the time of his entry (or since his settlement upon the same,) and that he has cultivated at least five acres of land. The land officers then issue a certificate of such entry and proof which has the general effect of a warranty deed. In due course of time a patent issues, and the title to the land is perfect and complete. Any of the land officers, or the superintendent of immigration will cheerfully answer letters of inquiry on this subject, or upon the subject of "soldiers' Homesteads." It is proper to state in this connection, that if, after the homesteader has resided upon his claim for the

space of six months and made the usual improvements thereon, he shall deem it for his interest to obtain a title to his land, he can do so by paying for the same at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, and the patent issues soon after, the same as in the ordinary five years' homestead. Persons so paying for their lands are said to "commute" their homesteads—that is they pay \$1.25 per acre for their land in lieu of residing upon the land until the expiration of five years.

PRE-EMPTIONS.

Every citizen, or person who has declared his intention to become a citizen, has a right to a pre-emption of 160 acres of government land. He may take both, a homestead and pre-emption, but cannot take but one at a time. He must perfect the title to one claim, or abandon it altogether before he can take another. The pre-emptor pays \$2.00 to the local land officers for filing his claim to the land he may select, and must go immediately thereon and erect a dwelling and cultivate at least five acres. The size or the value of the house is not prescribed in the law nor the amount of improvements to be made thereon. After a residence of six months or within two years and six months after the time of filing on said land, the pre-emptor must make his proof of settlement and cultivation, and residence, and pay for the land at the rate of \$1.25 per acre. The cost of improvements may not be over \$100 in value, including breaking, the greatest stress being laid upon residence upon the land. Agricultural College Script can be used in payment for either homestead or pre-emptions. No lands (except sections 16 and 36 of each township, which are reserved for school purposes,) are reserved in Southern Dakota; homesteaders and pre-emptors take their choice. Government lands cannot be obtained in Dakota except by homestead, pre-emption or under the timber culture act.

SOLDIERS' HOMESTEADS.

The greatest interest is manifested throughout the country in soldiers' homesteads. It is hoped that the law will be so amended as to allow soldiers to enter a quarter section either in person or by an agent without the necessity of residing upon the land. The privileges, if any, conferred by the soldiers' homestead law at present are not apparent. The following are the directions for obtaining "soldiers homesteads:" The soldier is entitled to enter a quarter section of land and obtain a patent therefor by living on said land one year, provided he has served four years in the army or navy of the United States. One years' actual residence upon the land is absolutely necessary. If the soldier is entitled to a credit of less than four years for service, then he must reside upon the land long enough to make it five years with the time

of such service in the army. He will be allowed six months from the time of his entry to move upon the land and commence his improvements, but the six months so allowed and the one years actual residence and the balance in credit for army services, are the easiest terms now offered to soldiers. If the party desiring to locate a soldiers homestead, is not ready to move on the land immediately, or being a resident of an eastern state, does not wish to remove to the land located for the space of six months, and it is considered desirable to secure a particular piece of land to prevent its being taken by others, then an agent possessing a regular power of attorney, may file a "declaration of intention" for the non-resident soldier, and the land will be retained for him for six months, at the expiration of which time the applicant must enter the land in person, or by attorney, and commence his improvements thereon. If, after the first application is made, the party fails to perfect his entry and subsequent occupancy of said land, it is considered voluntary abandonment of his claim, and debars him from the privilege of the law thereafter. A fee of one dollar each is allowed to both the register and receiver of the land office. The law does not regulate the fees or compensation of the agent or attorney. This must be arranged between the applicant and the attorney.

TIMBER CULTURE ON U. S. LANDS.

Any person who is the head of a family, or is twenty-one years of age, is entitled to file on a quarter section of government land for the purpose of growing timber thereon, and if on any such quarter section they plant forty acres of timber within four or five years from the date of filing—the trees not more than twelve feet apart each way—and protect them during eight years, next succeeding the date of entry, they will be entitled to a patent for the land at the end of said time. They need not, however, prove up on said land until the end of thirteen years. The land may be held in addition to a homestead or pre-emption, and either adjoining it or detached. Actual settlement on land taken for timber culture is not required. Any person holding land under the homestead law who, at the end of their third year, can show that they have cultivated during two years, at least one acre of timber for each and every sixteen acres of their homestead, will then receive a patent for said homestead. All lands acquired under the timber culture act are exempt from execution for debts contracted prior to the issuing of the patent therefor. The amount to be paid, at the time of filing on said land is \$14; when final proof is made \$4 more. To plant forty acres, twelve feet apart, will require about 12,300 trees. The Territory by its laws offers almost equal inducements, by exempting property from taxation, etc.

BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION

OF

DAKOTA TERRITORY.

FRED. J. CROSS, *Sup't*.....Yankton, Yankton county.
 JACOB BRAUCH, *Com'r*,.....Yankton, Yankton county.
 VALE P. THIELMAN, *Com'r*..Swan Lake, Turner county.
 J. M. WAHL, *Com'r*.....Canton, Lincoln county.
 S. J. ROBERTS, *Com'r*.....Fargo, Cass county.

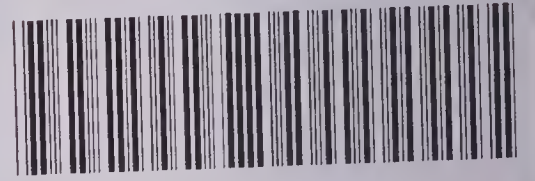
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 R. M. RASMUSSEN,.....Vermillion, Clay county.
 W. S. SMITH,Canton, Lincoln county.
 CHAS. W. McDONALD,....Sioux Falls, Minnehaha county.
 M. D. L. PETTIGREW,.....Flandreau, Moody county.
 JESSE A. BAKER.....Madison, Lake county.
 REV. G. S. CODINGTON,.....Medary, Brookings county.
 NEWTON EDMUNDS,.....Yankton, Yankton county.
 REV. J. J. MCINTIRE,.....Finlay, Turner county.
 A. ZIENERT,.....Bon Homme, Bon Homme county.
 SAMUEL A. BOYLES,.....Olivet, Hutchinson county.
 DANIEL SHEARER,.....Milltown, Armstrong county.
 FRANK B. FOSTER,.....Rockport, Hanson county.
 H. C. GREEN,.....Firesteel, Davison county.
 WM. G. SANTEE,.....Forestburg, Bramble county.
 J. J. JACKMAN,.....Bismarck, Burleigh county.
 HECTOR BRUCE,.....Grand Forks, Grand Forks county.
 A. SARGENT,....Caledonia, Traill county.
 W. R. GOODFELLOW,.....Pembina, Pembina county.
 D. WILMOT SMITH,.....Wahpeton, Richland county.
 MERRICK MOORE,.....Jamestown, Stutsman county.
 COL. L. D. MARSH,.....Worthington, Barnes county.
 A. J. HARWOOD,.....Fargo, Cass county.
 CAPT. H. H. HERRICK,.....Gary, Duel county.
 D. B. LOVEJOY,.....Lake Kampeska, Hamlin county, via
 Gary, Duel county.





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